

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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## **ABC and the Los Angeles Police Department Team up to Hold Accountable Those Adults who Furnish Alcohol to Minors**

**Los Angeles** - Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) along with officers from the Los Angeles Police Department arrested two suspects on August 10, 2007 for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors. They also cited another individual for possession of an open container. The operation was conducted near West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in the City of Los Angeles. Both agencies are working to address community complaints of public drunkenness and loitering in the area.

When the operation was complete, 31 adults were approached by the decoys who then asked the adults to purchase alcohol for them. Two adults purchased alcohol for the minors and were immediately cited.

ABC Investigators and local law enforcement conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

If the adults agree to purchase alcohol for the minor, investigators then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

The Friday, August 10, 2007 operation was intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors and improve the quality of life in the surrounding community.

This operation was funded through the ABC Grant Assistance Program (GAP). ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.